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SOURCE Nachrichten fuer AussenhandelLARGE INCREASED BLACK COAL OUTPUT

Fritz Selbmann, Minister for Heavy Industry, stated recently that the development of the German Democratic Republic's entire industry depends on the black coal mines' fulfillment of their production plan. The 1950 output was 500,000 tons short of the planned target.

Mechanization of mining operations, which was planned to begin in 1950, must be completed on schedule, Selbmann stressed. In 1951, eight additional heavy conveyers with electric fittings are to be added to the two which have been installed. Coal augers are already being operated, and the supply of mechanical picks and drill hammers is to be increased.

Selbmann claims that the efficiency of the underground miners has actually improved. The output per man-shift was 814 kilograms for January 1949, 904 kilograms in December 1950, and now has risen to almost 1,000 kilograms. The capacity of miners was 4,033 kilograms in January 1949 and 5,000 kilograms in December 1950. However, there has been a reduction in the number of miners employed. In January 1949, the Zwickau-Delsnitz Installation employed 11,444 miners, while the 1950 average was 10,040.

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